

PARENT CONSENT FOR CHILD AND PARENT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ECLS-B KINDERGARTEN ROUND

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The kindergarten round of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study—Birth Cohort (ECLS-B) research study is being conducted by RTI International, a research company in North Carolina, on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education (National Center for Educational Statistics). Once again, you and your child are being asked to take part in this national study of children and their families. The ECLS-B will give us information about the current well-being of children and their families, and will be used to help develop policies and programs that will better serve our Nation's families and communities.

PROCEDURES

This visit will include an interview with you and some activities with your child. We will ask you questions about you, your family, and your child. The kinds of questions that we will ask will include your household rules, your family's health care, child care, activities with your child, your child's behavior, your child's and your school experiences, and your feelings. These questions will help us understand your child and your child's home. It should take no more than 80 minutes. The child activities will include questions about your child's language, reading, mathematics, and motor skills. We will audiotape your child's responses to some of the questions to see how your child uses language. We will also weigh and measure your child. It should take no more than 1 hour. We will give you \$30 and your child a book to thank you for your time. You will not receive any results from these assessments. We may also contact you again next year for another interview.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

The only potential risk to your child participating in the evaluation is that s/he may become restless during the testing. If your child becomes frustrated or restless, we will take a break. We do not think that there are risks to your being in the study either, although some people might become uneasy by some of the questions such as those that ask about your feelings. You do not have to answer any questions that you don't want to. There is also a very small chance that someone could find out about what you have said. We will take every precaution to be sure that this does not happen.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS

There are no direct benefits to you or your child from answering our questions. Many parents enjoy seeing what their children can do. However, your child's participation and your participation will help us learn more about children's development.

CONFIDENTIALITY

What you tell us will help us learn how children's early experiences affect their learning and growth. We will not use any names of parents or children in our study reports. We will give a code number to you and your family members to protect your privacy. We will let researchers use a special version of the study data without any names. These researchers must follow very strict procedures to protect your privacy.

There are three exceptions to our promise of confidentiality. We are required by law to report any child abuse or neglect we may see or hear. We are also required to make a report and to get help if we are concerned that you may hurt yourself or someone else. As required by law, the Attorney General of the United States could get information collected in this study under court order to use to investigate and prosecute acts of terrorism.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

You may choose to take part in the study or not. No penalties or loss of benefits will come if you choose not to take part. If you choose to take part, you may choose not to answer any question or to leave the study at any time. There are no penalties if you decide not to let the interviewer weigh and measure your child or watch you teach your child a new skill. Your child does not have to do any test(s) that he/she does not want to do.

IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATOR

If you have any questions or concerns about the study, please call Dr. Jennifer Park (Project Officer at NCES) at 1-888-329-0037 (a toll-free number) or Dr. Kyle Snow (RTI Principal Investigator) at 1-800-334-8571 ext. 4605 (a toll-free number).

RIGHTS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject in this study, please call the office of the Research Ethics Review Board at the National Center for Health Statistics, toll-free at 1-800-223-8118. Please leave a brief message with your name and phone number. Say that you are calling about Protocol #2004-08. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

STATEMENT OF INFORMED CONSENT

The interviewer will record your decisions about participating in the kindergarten round of the ECLS-B study in the laptop computer.

All health and development information collected in ECLS-B will be kept private. The information is gathered and protected in keeping with the requirements of Federal law: The Public Health Service Act (42 USC 242k and 242m), and the National Education Statistics Act of 1994 (20 USC 9003a and 9007, as amended) authorize the collection of these data and, together with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a), protect the privacy of individually identifiable information. These laws limit the use of the data to the purposes for which it was collected -in this case, for research and statistical reports, unless the information is acquired by the Attorney General of the United States under court order to be used to investigate and prosecute acts of terrorism.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0805, expiration date 8/31/2008. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 80 minutes per response for adults and 60 minutes for children. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this survey, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual survey, write directly to: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.